

Sub C1  
residues from said screen fabric until the screen fabric is clean of said residues, at least a portion of said cleaning liquid remaining in or on the clean screen fabric, and thereafter removing said remaining portion of the cleaning liquid remaining in or on the clean screen fabric, the improvement which comprises removing said remaining portion by applying directly to and moving a suction nozzle operating under vacuum across the clean screen fabric to generate a gas flow through the fabric that sucks off and entrains said remaining portion of said cleaning liquid in said gas flow, and subsequently separating the entrained cleaning liquid from the gas flow.

Amend claims 10, 13, 14, 15, 17, 21, and 22 as follows:

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10. (Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein the rate of the gas flow is in the range of 5-60 m/s.

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13. (Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein the entrained cleaning is separated from the gas flow in a separation zone where the cleaning liquid is separated and collected.

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14. (Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein the vacuum used for sucking off the cleaning liquid is supplied by a compressed-air driven dust/liquid suction device.

15. (Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein the vacuum used for sucking off the cleaning liquid corresponds to a negative pressure in relation to atmospheric pressure of 20-300 mbars.

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17. (Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein the suction nozzle has a nozzle opening that is essentially rectangular.

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